

## Present Realities

Editor, The Wall Street Journal:

Recent happenings show clearly that if the peoples of the earth are to survive, we must change our present conventions of sovereignty to fit present realities. The purpose of the present conventions of sovereignty is to insure in some measure the survival of the collective lives of the peoples of one national state against another. Orbital vehicles of the Midas type make these conventions untenable and recognition of this fact imperative. The U-2 incident should in itself serve to illustrate that our conventions are outmoded.

The present situation of two countries possessing the means to obliterate civilization suggests there is room for yet another change in the conventions of sovereignty. Some version of the "open skies plan" should be adopted by us and pressed at every opportunity before the U.N. as a basis for reduction of armaments and as an acknowledgment of orbital vehicles by both the U.S. and U.S.S.R. Another avenue to be explored is that of taking the "panic buttons" away from national sovereignties and proposing that the U.N. assume the control of the development of atomic energy.

Logical reasoning, in itself, will not accomplish the task but if we propose a program of this sort, we will be in effect courting world opinion and an accommodation based on world opinion is the soundest the world can hope for—if not the only one. The efficacy of this proposal does not depend on the attainment of this goal in the very near future. Many benefits will accrue as we unrelentingly work toward this goal. As more world opinion associates itself with these goals, incidents such as Berlin and Quemoy, manufactured and otherwise, cannot but assume more realistic proportions and consequently efforts to exaggerate them for whatever purpose will be proportionally less effective. Then, too, if we so reinforce our present position in the U.N., we will greatly reduce the possibility of our coming out of a second summit—second best.

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